

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY SERVICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Policies

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, May 4, 2023, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82278195798>

Meeting ID: 822 7819 5798

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 822 7819 5798

Pursuant to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and its implementing federal regulations, the D.C. Department on Disability Services (DDS), Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), will hold a virtual public hearing on **Thursday, May 4, 2023**, to obtain input on the following proposed DDS policies impacting RSA services:

- **Case Transfer Policy**
- **Language Access Policy and Procedure**

The public will have **30 calendar days** to submit comments on the proposed policies. The policies are available for review in accessible format on the Agency's website at **[www.dds.dc.gov /page/policies-and-procedures-rsa](http://www.dds.dc.gov/page/policies-and-procedures-rsa)**.

The purpose of the hearing is to ensure that recommendations are received from consumers, service providers, advocacy organizations, and other interested individuals on how the agency can better achieve the following:

- Provide notice and continuity of supports and services when transferring cases from one Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Specialist to another.
- Provide equal access and participation in services, programs, and activities for people who are applying for, or using DDS services or supports, regardless of their ability to speak English.

Persons who wish to testify should contact Ms. Martina Kraemer, not later than 4:45 pm on **May 1, 2023**, and provide the following: name; address; telephone number; organizational affiliation(s); accommodation need(s), if any; and two (2) copies of the proposed testimony. Ms. Kraemer can be reached via email at martina.kraemer@dc.gov or via telephone at (202) 730-

1572 or 711 Relay. Testimony shall be no more than ten (10) minutes, depending on the number of persons who wish to testify.

Persons who wish to submit written comments may do so by U.S. Postal Service or by email to:

Martina Kraemer
D.C. Department on Disability Services
Rehabilitation Services Administration
250 E Street, SW, 6th Floor
Washington, DC 20024
DDS.publiccomments@dc.gov

Comments sent via email must be received by 4:45 pm on **May 1, 2023**, and mailed documents must be postmarked by the same date. All questions should be directed to Martina Kraemer at 202-730-1572 or 711 Relay, Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, or sent to martina.kraemer@dc.gov.

Persons who require accommodations to participate in the public hearing should contact Martina Kraemer **not later than Thursday, April 27, 2023, which is one week before the virtual public meeting.** Requests can be submitted either via email or mail to:

Martina Kraemer
D.C. Department on Disability Services
Rehabilitation Services Administration
250 E Street, SW, 6th Floor
Washington, DC 20024
martina.kraemer@dc.gov